

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TOMAS BÄCK et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned

Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: To be assigned

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PRODUCING ELONGAGE
SUPPORT ELEMENT AND
PRODUCT, AND USE OF THE
SUPPORT ELEMENT

Atty Docket: 21547/0287

31011 U.S. PTO
10/020401
12/18/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The documents identified on the attached PTO Form 1449 have come to the attention of the undersigned in connection with the above patent application. Copies of these documents are also attached unless otherwise indicated below and it is respectfully requested that they be made of record in this proceeding. The identification of these documents is for the purpose of meeting applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and is not intended to be an admission that these documents constitute prior art as to the invention claimed in the present application.

U.S. Patent 5,851,115 is believed to correspond to SE 9304042 -6 discussed in the present specification and to WO 95/5731 listed in the International Search Report whereas U.S. Patent 5,816,810 corresponds to SE 9402351-2 and WO 9601083 respectively.

It is believed that the documents identified do not disclose or make obvious a method and arrangement for producing elongate support element and product, and use of the support element as claimed in the present application. Although the information disclosed above is that which the reviewing attorney or agent believes

may be relevant based on a brief review of the application, the search report and the attached documents, the documents identified may contain relevant information other than that which has come to the attention of the reviewing attorney or agent. Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to review and form his or her own conclusions with regard to the relevance of the documents identified.

These documents are being submitted (check only one of the next four boxes):

- ☒ [X] within three months of the filing of the above U.S. national application or of the date of entry of the U.S. national stage in an International Patent Application (no fee is due);
- ☐ [] before receiving a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified patent application (no fee is due);
- ☐ [] following receipt of a first Office Action, but before issuance of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (if this box is checked, the fee box below OR one of the last two boxes must be checked);

OR

- ☐ [] following receipt of a Notice of Allowance or a Final Office Action (if this box is checked, the next box and one of the last two boxes also must be checked).

FEE

- ☐ [] Our Check in the amount of \$180.00 is attached in payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

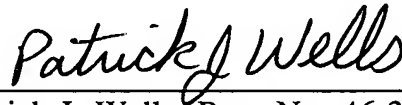
CERTIFICATION

- ☐ [] The undersigned certifies that each item of this information is being submitted within three months of the date it was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.
- ☐ [] The undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of

information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any deficiency in the above fee(s) or to charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 or 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 22-0185. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached for the Finance Branch.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick J. Wells, Reg. No. 46,355
Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP
1990 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-3425
Telephone: 202-331-7111

Date:

12/18/01

FORM PTO 1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

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21547/0287Serial No.
To be assignedApplicant
TOMAS BÄCK et al.Filing Date
HerewithGroup Art Unit
To be assignedU.S. Pat. & Tm. Off.
10/020401

12/18/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA	5,857,853	1/99	Van Nitterick, <i>et al.</i>			
	AB	5,993,214	11/99	Persson			
	AC	5,938,446	8/99	Andersson, <i>et al.</i>			
	AD	5,690,843	11/97	Schmitt, <i>et al.</i>			
	AE	5,851,115	12/98	Carlsson, <i>et al.</i>			
	AF	5,816,810	10/98	Antonson, <i>et al.</i>			
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 600. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant(s).